

TORQUE^{OF} THE TOWN

FALL 2015

The Voice of the Houston Chapter BMW Car Club of America



Original BMW Parts

www.bmwusa.com



The Ultimate Driving Machine®



ORIGINAL BMW PARTS. A MASTERPIECE OF FORM AND FUNCTION.

Ensuring that every BMW continues to live up to its title as the Ultimate Driving Machine®, requires none other than Original BMW Parts. Each part is precisely engineered by BMW for a perfect fit and finish and offers a two-year unlimited mileage warranty.

If you are under the impression that this level of engineering mastery comes with a big price tag – think again. Introducing BMW Value Line, a collection of bundled parts and service kits designed for earlier BMW models and offered at special savings.

BMW of Houston North proudly offers the Houston Chapter BMW CCA a 15% discount on all parts purchases.

ORIGINAL BMW PARTS.

BMW EfficientDynamics
Less consumption. More driving pleasure.

BMW OF HOUSTON

N O R T H

I-45 North @ FM 1960 • BMWofHoustonNorth.com

281-874-1550

©2011 BMW of North America, LLC. The BMW name and logo are registered trademarks. All rights reserved.



CONTENTS

4



Driver's Seat

Dennis Nowak

A call for volunteers to fill upcoming vacancies for chapter leadership positions

7



The 1st Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Blake LaGrone

A PGA Masters quality event benefitting Homes For Our Troops

10



Friends of the Club Awards

Dennis Nowak

Appreciation for our sponsors

12



King's Biergarten

Neil Baer photos by Valerie Baker

Great food, Great Beer, Great Cars and Great Friends in the Deutschland tradition

16



Tech Tips

Jeff Otten

Part 3 of the process of rebuilding an M3 Limited Slip Differential with 4-Plates

20



Editor's Corner

Jim Robinson

Whats in a name; The Battleship Texas

Houston Chapter
BMW Car Club of America
Post Office Box 56763
Houston, TX 77256-6763
www.houston-bmwcca.com

Dennis Nowak
President
281-731-7164
president@houston-bmwcca.com

Blake LaGrone
Vice-President
281-743-1029
vice-president@houston-bmwcca.com

Bill Krupowicz
Treasurer
treasurer@houston-bmwcca.com

Diane Albrecht
Secretary
secretary@houston-bmwcca.com

Christopher Soto
Membership Chairperson
membership@houston-bmwcca.com

Neil Baer
Social Events Chairperson
socialevents@houston-bmwcca.com

Chris Stokes
Autocross Chairperson
autocross-coordinators@houston-bmwcca.com

Jeff Thomson
Webmaster
webmaster@houston-bmwcca.com

Jim Robinson
Newsletter Editor
newsletter@houston-bmwcca.com

Kristen Reyes
Social Media Coordinator
socialmedia@houston-bmwcca.com

Richard Lo
Driving Events Coordinator
drivingevents@houston-bmwcca.com

Jeff Otten
Technical Advisor
techadvisor@houston-bmwcca.com

South Central Regional VP
Dan Baker - 832-298-1984
southcentralrvp@bmwcca.org

Past Presidents
David Dalton • Vikki Finley • Dan Baker
Jeff Bailey • James Salazar

Internet Services courtesy of
OpLink
www.oplink.net
281-445-9800

Printing Services
Specialty Bindery & Printing
www.sbpmail.com
713-869-0594

ON THE COVER:

*Cypress Lakes G. C. The
1st Annual Charity Golf
Tournament*





Dennis Nowak

President - Houston Chapter

I hope everyone is managing to stay cool this summer. To say it has been hot is an understatement. I am not sure, but I think someone has the global temperature dial set to broil. I want to thank all the folks who have braved the steamy weather to come out and attend the events during the summer. At this time of year we all look forward to the cooler months of Fall, even if the temperature only drops 10 degrees or so.

Speaking of events, **Neil Baer**, our Social Events coordinator and his wife Toni are moving out of state. I want to personally thank Neil for all he has done for our chapter and I know he will be a great asset to the Sandlapper chapter in South Carolina. Neil has put together some great events during his reign and he will be sorely missed. As most of you have seen in the recent eBlast's we have been begging for someone to step up and take over the **Social Events Chair** position. As I write this, we have not had anyone volunteer. The board cannot do this alone and I am asking those of you who haven't volunteered for anything in the past and have a little time, consider stepping up and helping out. Without a

Social Events Chair we will have much fewer events planned throughout the year. I can't stress this enough, we need your help to help run your car club!

And speaking of the **eBlast** we desperately need someone to take over this task. Normally about an hour of time on a monthly basis to get this done. I would love to find an outgoing person to take this on and give it a little flare. Interested? If you are interested in the Social Events Chair position or taking over the eBlast, please send me an email to president@houston-bmwcca.com.

As most of you are getting an earful of the politicians' rhetoric for the next U.S. presidential elections, we here in the Houston Chapter will be holding elections for 2016. I promise the rhetoric in the chapter will not be as laughable as the politicians, but still just as important. The two open officer positions are for **President** and **Vice-president** and details of those positions can be found in this edition of the Torque. Good leadership is paramount for our club to succeed and prosper so if you have a desire to lead this car club into the future, now is the time to step up. This will be my final year

as chapter President. I feel the need to focus my time on other issues in my life and now is a good time to give the steering wheel to someone else and let them drive for a while. This is your car club, you make it what it is and with your help, we can make it the best car club in the world.

Keep your eyes on the events calendar for new event details. Without a Social Events Chairperson, events will be painfully limited. We are in the planning stages for the **Fredericksburg Weekend** drive the end of October, **The Hair of the Dog Drive** January 1st and the **Annual Dinner** also in January. For those of you headed to Ofest, I wish you safe travels and hope that the event is better than last year. I can't wait to hear about the antics of the **Road Monkeys** this year! I hope to see you at the events, you will find me,

in the driver's seat.

Stay Informed!! - eBlast Signup

Once a month the Chapter emails an eBlast to all members who have indicated that they want to be kept informed about Chapter activities and events, as well as news and information involving the Chapter.

If you wish to receive this information and are not already signed up you may do so on the website at www.houston-bmwcca.com.

The eBlast request is located at the lower left on the front page.

2016 ELECTIONS

Elections for 2016 are fast approaching . This time around we will be electing a chapter President and Vice-President. If you feel like you could lead this club in a better direction or have a desire to be part of the leadership team, now is the time to get your name on the ballot. If you are unsure of what the positions require, I have printed some excerpts below from our chapter bylaws to give insight.

For all elected positions, candidates must be in good standing with the Chapter.

Candidates for the position of President must have served on the Board for a period of not less than one (1) year.

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Chapter and shall:

- a. *Preside at all meetings and provide the meeting agenda.*
- b. *Supervise the general functioning of the Chapter.*
- c. *Call Board meetings as conditions warrant.*
- d. *Provide an annual report to the membership on the Chapter's activities and financial health.*
- e. *Shall sign checks for disbursements authorized by the Board of Directors and forward supporting documentation to Treasurer within ten (10) days.*
- f. *Perform other executive functions as may be required.*
- g. *Ensure Chapter compliance with and maintain the BMW CCA Operations Manual.*
- h. *Shall turn over all Chapter assets, accounts, records, etc. to successors as directed by the Board of Directors.*

The Vice-President shall assist the President in the conduct of the affairs of the Chapter and shall:

- a. *Assume the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or inability to serve in his office.*
- b. *Make arrangements for and assure necessary insurance coverage for all events.*
- c. *Be responsible for coordinating social events for the Chapter in conjunction with the Social Events Chair and/or appointed committees.*
- d. *Have oversight of the Chapter website regarding posting of events.*
- e. *Shall turn over all Chapter assets, accounts, records, etc. to successors as directed by the Board of Directors.*

If you have a desire to be involved in the inner workings and guidance of the chapter, I would strongly suggest you put your name in the hat. Send an email with your name, membership number, position you are running for and a short biography of yourself to nominations@houston-bmwcca.com.

Deadline for submissions will be November 27th, 2015. Names will be printed on ballots in the Winter edition of the Torque of the Town. Please don't assume someone else will fill these positions. Every position on the board is important and we need folks to step up and take the reins. We can't do this without you!

Along with the elected positions there are 6 appointed board positions that will be selected by the elected officers in January of 2016. These positions are:

Membership Chairperson Social Events Chairperson Newsletter Editor

Autocross Chairperson Webmaster Chapter DEC

Information about these positions can be found on our website: www.houston-bmwcca.com
Click on the "ABOUT US" tab and then click "CHAPTER OPS MANUAL." If you are interested in any of these positions please send an email with your name, membership number and position you are running for and a short biography of yourself to nominations@houston-bmwcca.com

Submission deadline for these positions will be December 31st, 2015. Again, please don't assume someone else will fill these positions, if you want to be considered for the position, don't hesitate.

Dennis Nowak, Chapter President

Craftsmanship. Integrity. Curiosity.

Providing service, parts and performance modifications exclusively for BMWs in Houston, Texas since 1980.



No matter how well a car is manufactured, it's only as good as the service performed on it. Our BMW technicians have decades of experience collectively, and understand what it means to perform stellar workmanship. For routine maintenance, performance modifications and extended warranty work... Bavarian Machine Specialties delivers.

Come find out what others already know...

"Experience Matters."

Bavarian Machine Specialties
3117 D'Amico Street | Houston, Texas 77019

Conveniently located 3 minutes from downtown near Waugh and Allen Parkway. | 8:00 to 5:30 Monday - Friday

713-524-8365 | www.bavarianmachine.com





“Homes for our Troops” Houston BMW CCA 1st Charity Golf Tournament



May 29th 2015.

By Blake LaGrone

Saturday February 7th I attended the Board meeting and one of the topics raised was “new events”. Our President Dennis Nowak suggested a golf tournament. Being an avid golfer myself, I slapped my forehead and thought “Why didn’t I think of that?!!!” So, being fairly new in the job as the Vice President I volunteered to organize our car clubs first golf tournament. What a ride I was in for! Little did I know that I had just begun a task that has a fairly steep learning curve. After further discussion with the Board it was decided that this would be a Charity tournament, preferably benefitting a Veterans charity. I then began studying the hundreds if not thousands of Veterans charities. We finally settled on “Homes for Our Troops”. HFOT builds special purpose homes for severely disabled Veterans and they come highly rated by a variety of Charity oversight organizations. Giving 90% of the money raised directly to the building of a disabled Veteran’s home is an admirable record.

I began making calls to find out what had to be done and how soon. My contact at HFOT is a lady named **Brianne McNamara** and she was a big help in helping me to get organized. I then called **Will Crews**, the Director of Sales at **Cypress Lakes Golf Course** and laid out what we wanted to do. He too was a big help in helping me find a way to make this happen. Cypress Lakes is a beautiful course with very fast, well cared for Putting Greens. My only concern was that we had less time than I would have liked to organize the event to do a boatload of work!

Neil Baer our Social Events Chairman, and Bill Krupowicz our Treasurer offered to help and they were both a real blessing. Thanks guys! I couldn’t have done this without you! Jim Robinson our “Torque” editor contacted **Jack Chambers; host of “Houston and Beyond” on KNTH - AM 1070 “The Answer”** to interview me and the Chairman of HFOT about the upcoming tournament

in order to give us some local coverage about the event and raise awareness about what HFOT does and how they do it. This was my first radio interview and it was memorable. Jack called me from Medellin Colombia to do the interview over the phone. Our interview was mostly about our car club and what brings us together as BMW owners. He was surprised to learn that BMW has the largest car club following in the world. Jack then called HFOT Chairman **Major General Tim McHale, ret.** and interviewed him about HFOT, its mission and its people. Thanks Jack and Thanks Jim!

Neil and I then began going to every business we could think of to drum up Sponsors, Donations, and Golfers to play in this tournament. We hit all of the BMW dealerships and they were marvelous. Our first Sponsor was **West Houston BMW** (Gold Sponsorship). I have known the parts folks at West for years and **John Crispino** (Parts advisor) was very helpful in getting me in to speak to the folks who might be willing to be a Sponsor for this. He got me in to speak to **Randy Baxter** (Parts Dept. Director) and we began talking specifics.



In addition to being a Gold Sponsor, West Houston BMW donated some wonderful items to be raffled off as door prizes. Things like a carbon fiber BMW “M” watch! **Maria Moncada Alaoui**

(West Houston Dealer Operator), **Randy Baxter**, **John Crispino** Thank you all!

I know that Neil hit a bunch of different businesses, and I went to banks, grocery chain stores, restaurants, hospitals, insurance companies, golf stores and other golf courses. I don’t know how many miles I did but I was running all over, Neil did even more as he lives in Conroe! In addition to the cold sales calls (basically!), I coordinated with “Absolute Color” to print up flyers and Posters that Neil and I began distributing wherever they would allow us to put them.

Gerald Anderson helped me with a contact at **Advantage BMW Midtown** and I went to see **Sergio Martinez** (New car Sales) to see about getting in to see **Pat Goldwait** (General Manager). They were both very helpful and Midtown signed up for a **Silver Sponsorship**.



In addition to being a Silver Sponsor, Advantage BMW Midtown donated numerous nice items for our raffle. Thanks Pat, Sergio and Gerald!

I called my cousin **Danny** out in Clear Lake to see if he could get me in to see the GM at **Advantage BMW Clear Lake** about sponsorship. **Danny** and his wife **Terry** have bought several new BMW’s from there. Terry is a **VP for British Petroleum**. In addition, Dan and Terry Wood donated \$500 to the event. Thanks Randy, Dan, Terry! BP will match the donation.



Here's a picture of some of our Raffle prizes.

Randy Stein at **Advantage BMW Clear Lake** signed up as our Beverage cart Sponsor.

On the 17th hole **Momentum BMW Southwest** a special prize was awarded for "Closest to the Pin". At Southwest Neil was able to speak to Tommy Kuranoff (General Manager and an all around nice guy!), and Tom Butcher. The Prize was a weekend in a new Z4. **Jason Carmack** who won this was quite happy!



Diamonds in the Rough - Great Sports Memorabilia Auction. Jay Willet was very helpful and raised a nice donation to HFOT with no cost to us.



Neil did a great job negotiating this. They also donated a number of nice gifts for our raffle. Thanks **Tommy Kuranoff** and **Randy Butcher!**



Other Folks I would like to Thank:

BMW of North Houston- Mike Williams
Numerous great Raffle prizes. Thanks Mike!

Houston Chapter BMW CCA
\$500 donation

Dave Mitchell \$100 donation

Chase McPheeters \$120 donation
Community of Faith Men's Group

\$350 donation
Charity Golf International

Super Long Drive on hole #6.
This guy could drive the green for a small donation! Then you got to play the hole from where he drove it.

Stik it Golf Sam and Dennis were great and their sale of the Super Ticket netted a nice donation to HFOT with no cost to us!



Thank You All for participating and making this 1st time effort a success! Please tell your friends and come back next year!

The Month of May was one of the rainiest months on record, but May 29th was partly cloudy with a nice breeze. We couldn't have asked for better weather. Everybody who played had a ball and I don't think anyone left hungry or without a prize of some sort! To all those who played Thanks for participating!

When it all was said and done **we raised over \$5,000.00 for Homes for Our Troops**. When we receive the matching funds from the National office which we should be eligible for, that figure will double.

That is an incredible accomplishment for your first year! Do you need anything from HFOT to process the donation?

Brianne McNamara

Here is what we heard from Bri-
anne at HFOT:

To: Blake LaGrone and the Hous-
ton BMWCCA

From: Brianne McNamara
<BMcNamara@hfotusa.org>
To: Blake LaGrone <thetin-
pushr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015
12:45 PM
Subject: RE: HFOT GOLF
TOURNAMENT 5/29/15 Hous-
ton
Good Afternoon Blake!
Congratulations on this amaz-
ing event!



Awards For Our Sponsors

The BMW CCA Houston Chapter has some outstanding sponsors and we felt it was time to show some appreciation for helping us out. We established “**Friend of the Club**”

Awards and have started presenting these awards to some of these businesses as a small token of our gratitude. You will see more of these presentation pictures in subsequent issues as we get the awards made and presented.

BMW of North Houston has been a long time friend of the club. Parts Director Mike Williams and General Sales Manager Nick Butuc were on hand for the presentation.

Metropolitan Collison owner, Andy Holder with some of his most excellent staff.

Momentum BMW Southwest General Manager Tommy Kuranoff was presented the award. We had an enjoyable meeting with Tommy and forsee a great friendship with him and the dealership.

Dennis



BMW of North Houston

Pictured from left to right. Dennis Nowak, Mike Williams, Nick Butuc, Blake LaGrone and Neil Baer.



Metropolitan Collison

Owner, Andy Holder with some of his most excellent staff.



Momentum BMW Southwest Pictured from left to right. Dennis Nowak, Tommy Kuranoff, Blake LaGrone and Neil Baer.



Texas-German Autohaus, L. P.

3417 Edloe Street
Houston, Texas 77027
(713) 850-8282
www.t-g-a.com



Texas-German Autohaus

Service
Mercedes and BMW
Automobiles
850-8282



Hans Richter
President

TGA specializes in the repair and service of Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Porsche automobiles. We have served the Houston European car owner since 1994. Please come for a visit and find out why more than 5700 customers are giving **TGA** a 97% customer satisfaction rating!

“We speak your car’s language.”

Hours: Monday - Friday: 7:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am - noon (Consultation Only)



ProAm Parts & Accessories
6125 Richmond Ave.
Houston, TX 77057
713-781-7755 800-847-5712
www.proamauto.com



Now for BMWCCA members, ProAm's "Spend \$100, Get \$100" Contingency Award Program. Sign Up & Details @ proamauto.com

We offer:

- DE Car preparation & Corner Balancing
- Suspension & Brake Upgrades
- Wheel & Tire packages - Mounting & Balancing
- Routine Maintenance - Full Synthetic Oil Changes
- Complete Detailing Service & Headlight Restoration



Wilwood RECARO APEX

ProAm is now your source for APEX wheels for BMW's & Vorshlag suspension parts



Advertise in TORQUE OF THE TOWN!

Contact: newsletter@houston-bmwcca.com
for rates and availability.

Momentum BMW West

Authorized **DINAN** Dealer

Authorized Dealership of BMW N.A.

Momentum BMW West
a Sonic Automotive Dealership

Address
15865 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77094

Juan Maldonado
Service Advisor

Main
832.772.9100

Fax
832.772.9190

Direct
832.772.9019

e-mail
juan.maldonado@bmwwest.com

website
www.bmwwest.com



Authorized Dealership of BMW N.A.

Momentum BMW West
a Sonic Automotive Dealership

Address
15865 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77094

John Crispino
Parts Specialist

Main
832.772.9152

Direct
713.907.2396

Fax
832.772.9190

e-mail
john.crispino@bmwwest.com

website
www.bmwwest.com





to about 130 to 150F. Use the old race to drive the new race in, tap around to keep the race square as it enters the bore. Compare the depth to the other flange to be sure it is fully seated. Repeat the installation for the other side.



Figure 3 BMW output bearing shims

LSD Differential Rebuild with 4-plates - Part 3

Output Flange Bearings and Seals

Replacing the output flange seals is recommended. Note the depth of the seal from the outside. Push the old seal out, a suitable piece of PVC piping with plate and plastic hammer, worked well. A hammer and punch can also be used.



Figure 1 Pushing seal out

The bearing race is removed with a punch. Note the position of the race to the inside edge of the flange. Heat the outside of the flange quickly with a propane torch. The idea is to warm the outside quickly to maximize the temperature differential between the flange and race. This expands the flange more than the race so removal is easier. Once hot use a punch and tap around to remove the race.

To install the new race, clean the bore and check the entry for any burr at the edge, dress with sandpaper if needed. Clean the bore and wipe off the race. Wipe a small amount of differential oil on the race OD. The race can be put in the freezer, but it is not necessary as it is easy to heat the flange ID. Heat the ID

Install new seals in the drive flanges. Tap the seal slightly further in, about 1/32", which will move the contact point on the shaft slightly. Use a PVC pipe or similar large sleeve, and check frequently to make sure the seal is square to the bore.

To remove the output bearing from the differential, a bearing puller is best. Cut the bearing cage with diagonal pliers and remove the bearings. Then install the bearing puller. Figure 2 shows the Harbor Freight tool. Tighten carefully, there is not much grip below the race. Apply some heat with propane torch helps.



Figure 2 Bearing puller to remove race

Next the side shims need to be checked and a potentially changed. The shims can be purchased as a set, or shims can be found in a "donor" differential. The BMW parts database lists a large set and a small set. Both are available through dealers.

The small set, PN 33139065734 contains shims from 1.45 to 1.69mm, 9 Pieces. The large set, PN 33139065735 contains shims from 1.72 to 1.96mm. The increment is .03mm (.0012in). To be fully prepared you need both sets.

Start by assembling the differential with the original shims. Oil both bearings using differential oil. No Loctite at this point, that will be done later. Install the driver side shim and the passenger shim with six bolts on the driver side. Hand tighten the bolts. The M8 grade 8.8 bolt torque is only 22Nm (16.2 ft-lbs), don't overtighten. On the passenger side just put every other bolt to save time, and run them in hand tight. Turn the LSD and make sure it turns freely. Compare by feel to the resistance initially on the drive before it was taken apart. If it binds, stop, the shim on the passenger side will need to be thicker. If it turns too easily, the passenger shim will need to be thinner. The goal is to have a bearing preload of 4000N (899 lb). If it feels in the ball park, tighten the passenger bolts. Using the 1/4" torque wrench; do a torque test. Try it several times. If it is below 22 in-lbs, then the bearing preload is too light. Above 24 in-lbs, the preload is too high.

Remove the passenger shim and check the thickness. Using a caliper select the next thicker or thinner shim as needed. If you are new to this, select one thicker and one thinner, and try them both to get a feel for the correct preload. This approach can produce a good result without the special tools BMW recommends.

The final check is to fully torque all six (6) bolts. Re-check the input torque. If it is 22- 24 in-lbs, then the shims are good.

We now need to confirm the position of the ring gear. This is done with the backlash. Remember the test we did initially? That was to give us a known starting point. This differential was known to run good and the backlash was pretty much spot on.

In the event the backlash is not acceptable the shim on the driver side will be increased or decreased, AND the shim on the passenger will be changed. The total of both shims must stay the same,

or the bearing preload will be changed. Increase the driver shim to increase the backlash (move the gear teeth apart). Decrease the driver shim to decrease the backlash, moving the gears closer together. For this differential I installed the next thinner shim on the passenger side only.

BMW says the backlash should be .0024 to .0055 in. I target .004 to .005.

Use a dial indicator with a magnetic base. Position the indicator as so as to put the put the pointer normal to the gear tooth, similar to the picture. The indicator and base shown are inexpensive from Harbor Freight Tools.

This differential was just about perfect at .0045. Last thing to check is the pattern. Apply the gear paint and turn a few cycles. BMW provides a figure in the TIS illustrating poor patterns. Since we checked the gears initially, on a known good drive, we just need it to be the same.



Figure 4 Backlash check with dial indicator on magnetic base

Once the gear pattern is good, remove the LSD and install the speedometer trigger wheel. Heat the inside of the wheel with a propane torch. Leather gloves are recommended. Carefully tap on, keeping the wheel level or it will pop off. Use a punch and fully seat. Visually check the wheel for any bent tangs.

Install the side bolt flanges and Loctite in place. Note that a couple of the holes are through drilled, so without the Loctite the final drive will weep oil. Use blue Loctite and torque the bolts. I suggest install three (3) bolts each side, and then the others. Once all six (6) have been installed with Loctite, tighten to final torque in a cross pattern with a torque wrench.

The rear cover is next. BMW uses a paper gasket, which was damaged when the final drive was opened.

I use Permatex/Loctite 515 or 518 sealant, which is similar to the sealant used on transmission cases and Porsche engine cases. Note that this type sealant is activated by ferrous material, so will fully cure in this application (steel case and aluminum cover) without a primer.



Figure 5 Gasket Eliminator instead of paper gasket

Torque the bolts to the recommended torque, M10 8.8, 45Nm (33 ft-lbs) in a cross pattern. I like to leave it 24 hours for full cure before putting in oil, so install the final drive back in the car before filling with oil.

Make sure the differential is level and fill to the bottom thread (small trickle runs out) of the upper plug hole. BMW torque is pretty high (70Nm or 52 ft-lbs), I suggest about 35 - 40 ft-lbs and prefer to hand tighten with feel of the aluminum crush ring.

Test Driving

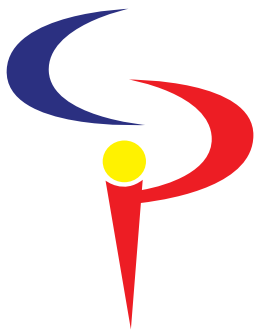
With the final drive back in the car, some easy driving should be done to break in. The first thing to do is go to an empty parking lot and do 10 to 20 of almost full lock figure 8's at low speed 1st or 2nd gear (15 -20mph). Do also some larger circles. There should be no chatter or noise heard. Next resist the temptation to jump on it and do some fairly gentle normal driving. Try to get at least a 100 miles or so before using it hard. After about 1200 miles, I suggest a fluid change, following BMW M maintenance recommendations.

How did it work?

Great. Hitting the throttle with both wheels driving really does work better. Hard cornering is more stable, and the car just seems to hold a tighter line. Braking also feels better. The car just simply feels connected. Overall a lot of bang for the buck. Check Donovan's (no. 911) times on the club website from the Oct. 2014 or Jan. 2015 Autocross.

Questions or comments? Feel free to e-mail techadvisor@houston-bmwcca.com.





**COLLISION
PLUS INC.**

Quality Services:

- Exotic/ Highline Customizations
- Auto paint & body repair
- Framework
- Auto glass
- Window tint
- Auto detailing

Auto Accessories:

- Alarms
- Stereos
- Body Kits, etc.



Collision Plus Inc.
7628 Bellaire Blvd.
Houston, TX 77036
713.988.5489
(fax) 713.988.6451

Collision Plus II
600 Hwy. 6 South
Houston, TX 77079
281.496.5489
281.496.6451 (fax)



www.collisionplusinc.com



NORTH HOUSTON BEEMER

22820 I-45 North, Ste 1-A Spring, TX 77373
(exit Spring Steubner West Road)

North Houston Beemer is family owned by a 13 year BMW Dealership Master Technician and Team Leader. The BMW Step Program is a prestigious training program available only to top performing graduates of the country's best automotive technical schools. This ensures the highest quality BMW Service Technicians. North Houston Beemer has three BMW Master Technicians who have completed the BMW Step Program, one has 7 years of experience and was a team leader, one has 4 years of experience, and they all have worked at a BMW dealer before working at North Houston Beemer.

We specialize exclusively in BMW and MINI Coopers. We are not affiliated with any other shops.

PHONE: 281-288-8200 | FAX: 281-288-2804



NHBEEMER.COM

Attention BMW & MINI Cooper Owners!
We Have Your Costly Dealer Alternative!

Monday-Friday 8am - 5pm Saturday 9am-2pm Call or email for an appointment



Dealer prices have risen but we are 30% less with the same training!

TRUSTED SERVICE

Did you know if your wheels are out of alignment, it will cause an increase in fuel consumption? Let us save you money by providing a FREE Alignment Check in a matter of minutes!

Window tinting, glass repair and replacement, and wheel repair.

Discounted car rental and free shuttle 30 mile radius. Free WIFI!

Put your trust in our up to date dealer factory training!

PERFORMANCE KITS

We do factory accessories such as iPod kits, alarms, cd changers, bike racks, wheels, body kits, x5 running boards, and trailer hitches!

BMW DINAN Performance kits - all vehicle models. MINI John Cooper Works and other performance kits.

We are an Active Autowerke dealer and do all performance including supercharger, suspension, body kits, wheels, brakes, and software.

We accept certain warranties.

VALUABLE COUPONS

Oil Change Special
If you do oil change, brake flush, and coolant flush - you get the A/C odor treatment for free a saving of \$100

\$75 OFF
YOUR TOTAL BILL OF \$600 OR MORE

TWO PHASE FUEL INJECTION CLEANING SERVICE
cleans directly into injectors & complete fuel system

ONLY \$199.99

\$25 OFF
YOUR TOTAL BILL OF \$300 OR MORE

Seconds away from Hardy Toll Road and minutes away from Woodlands Park and Ride
North Houston Beemer | 22820 I-45 North Ste 1-A Spring, TX 77373 | T- 281-288-8200 | E- nhbeemer@gmail.com | W- nhbeemer.com



We live in the fourth largest city in the United States with a population as diverse as anyplace. If you walk around the Galleria, it feels like lunch at the UN. And yet, the number of German restaurants in this huge city can be counted on one hand!

So it was with eager anticipation that we tried a new venue with the club, **King's Biergarten in Pearland**. Let's just say the **Pearland Little League** team isn't the only group that knows how to hit!

The food was great, the beer plentiful and the atmosphere lively as a group of over 30 members took a break from 100 degree heat to enjoy the afternoon.

King's Biergarten was founded by a father and son team originally from Austria. And to paraphrase another famous Austrian, "we'll be back"

Neil Baer



THE ULTIMATE BMW SERVICE EXPERIENCE

SERVING HOUSTON SINCE 2002

11 years of
Service

- /// FACTORY-TRAINED TECHNICIANS
- /// ONLY GENUINE BMW PARTS
- /// HONOR MOST EXTENDED WARRANTIES
- /// COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE
- /// FREE CAR WASH AFTER SERVICE
- /// BMW CCA MEMBERS RECEIVE 10% DISCOUNT
ON ALL REPAIRS



*Celebrating 11 Years
of Exceptional Service!*

/// BIMMER WORKSHOP

3421 FM 1960 WEST ❖ HUMBLE, TX 77338
www.bimmerworkshop.com ❖ 281-233-0111



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Coffee meetings:
 Cedar Creek Cafe Bar & Grill
 9am - 12pm
 September 12
 October 10
 November 14

AutoCross:
 Houston Police Academy
 8:30 - 3:30pm
 September 13
 November 15
 December 13

Board Meeting:
 Lyndon's BBQ
 11am - 2pm
 November 11

Teen Street Survival:
 Houston Police Academy
 8am - 4pm
 October 17

Brands you trust.








Best price guarantee • No sales tax

BAVARIAN
 autosport

800.535.2002 | BavAuto.com

Houston Chapter BMWCCA Apparel
<http://houstonbmwcca.tictail.com/>



Work.



Play!

Some BMWs take people to work. Some people take their BMWs to play! Bavarian Machine Specialties is the shop that understands both.

Since 1980, BMW owners in the Houston area have been bringing their cars to Bavarian Machine Specialties for routine maintenance, performance modifications, and extended warranty work, or they just want a faster track time... Bavarian Machine Specialties delivers.

Come find out what others already know... "Experience Matters."

Bavarian Machine Specialties ♦ 3117 D'Amico Street ♦ Houston, TX 77019 ♦ (713)524-8365



www.bavarianmachine.com

oplink.net

Premium Internet Services

Serving Houston since 1999!

- **High-Speed DSL Internet**
- **Server Colocation**
- **Web Site Hosting**
- **IT/Network Consultation**

Visit Our Website Or Call Today

<http://www.oplink.net>
281-445-9800

Oplink.net is a proud sponsor of Houston BMW CCA

“Coffee – Happy Campers”



“Nothing like a story over
quarter panel..”



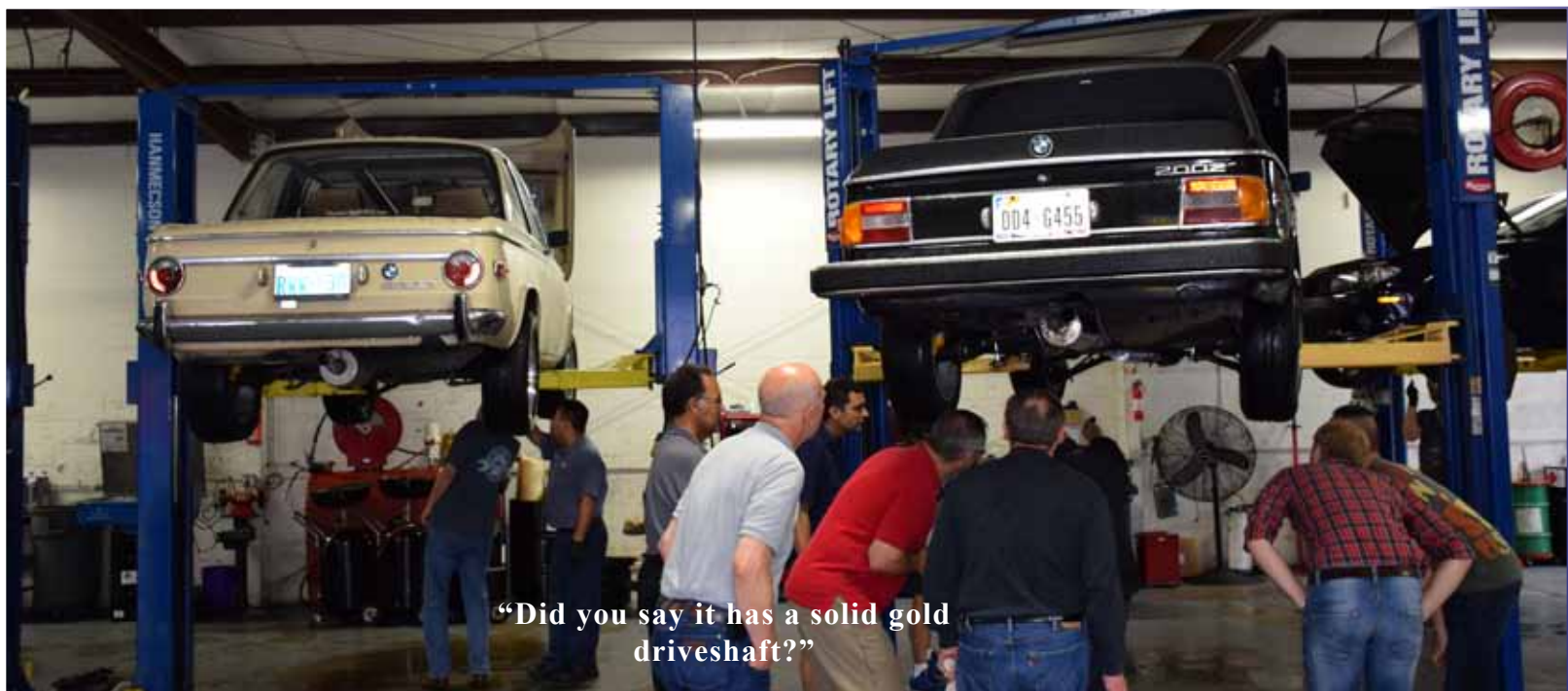
“Clean Machine”



“12 versions of Black – the same color!”
Talk about having good eyes...”



“Did you say it has a solid gold
driveshaft?”





... a fresh rear



“One of two ovens to dry the freshly painted vehicles. Can you say 140 degrees?”

SKIN GAMES NEIL BAER

It’s been a busy first half of the year. We were lucky enough to have two tech sessions. On April 25, “Under the Skin”, a nice tech session at **Bimmer Workshop** was held.

All attendees got to focus on the workings of their cars plus interesting peeks at others.

And on June 6 a second session called “The Skin”, at **Metropolitan Collision**, which focused on body repair and education of the process to beautify our vehicles.

Both events were well attended. At “Under the Skin”, many members shared their expertise answering questions on a variety of topics. Of course the folks at Bimmer Workshop pointed out various areas on each car, finding some areas of attention plus educating on each component.

There was also an interesting conversation on cleaning cylinder heads with ground Pecan shells and how they have that perfect coefficient of cleansing without wearing out the parts being cleaned. OK, it was more interesting to some than others....

What we all agreed on was the hospitality of **Alain Dikdan** and his team was fantastic and we look forward to the next visit.

A few weeks later, it was time to see what happens when something goes wrong with the body of our beloved Bim-

mers. Metropolitan Collision was great at providing a deep education on the work and detail that goes into making a vehicle look great again. Some of these vehicles under their care were really banged up.

But with the tools and talent of **Andy Holder’s** team, they look great!

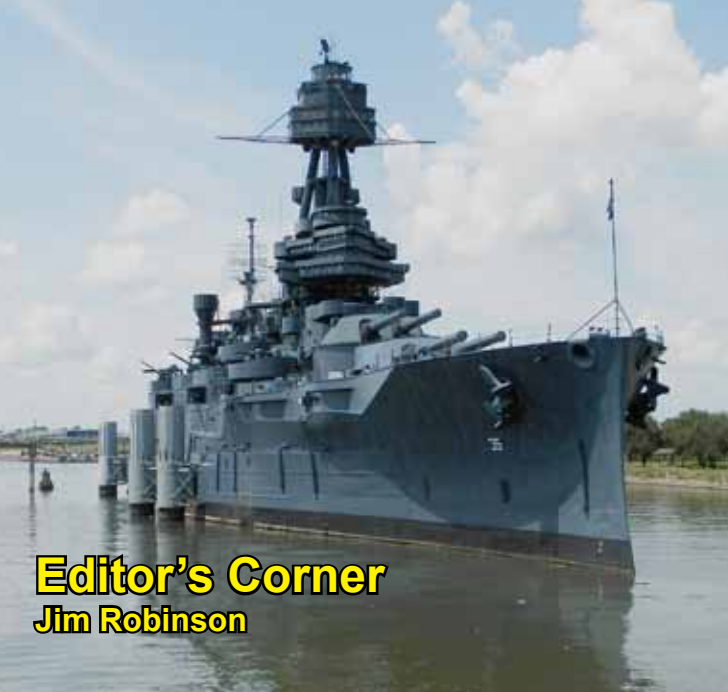
It’s hard to pick just one thing that exemplifies the attention to detail but

seeing 12 different shades of the same black paint – same paint ID number and name, but 12 different flavors – is one area that shows how a great product is not an accident. (no pun intended)

Neil Baer



Got paint?™



Editor's Corner
Jim Robinson



Awhile back **Carl Oland** wrote an article about Naming Your Car. (Winter 2014 TOTT). And he gave our chapter national recognition with a letter to **Rondel**. (July 2015) Let's reopen that can of worms. Thanks for that, Carl.

It's not hard to understand why people name their cars. People name boats, airplanes, buildings, pets and children. We have an attachment to? We all see personalized license plates on cars and we often try to figure out their meaning. How about BLTZKRG for an M5?

Things like warships, airplanes and buildings have monikers. These things have names because people have a direct historical attachment to them.

I was thinking about that when I recently visited **The Battleship Texas**. BB 35, it's official Navy designation, was named for Texas seemingly arbitrarily (Another similar ship was named for New York). Every ship has a name of some kind. How many sailboats are named for their owners wives (who let them buy them)?

As for Texas, this ship is the only Dreadnaught that served in both world wars. BB35 shelled the enemy at Normandy on D-Day. Thousands of sailors and marines served on Texas; it is a truly historical vessel that lived up to it's name.

As for my 528i - I named it after a character in a book I read.

Nope, I ain't sayin'



ADVERTISERS INDEX

BAVARIAN AUTOSPORT -----	18
BAVARIAN MACHINE -----	6
BIMMER WORKSHOP -----	17
BMW OF HOUSTON NORTH -----	2
COLLISION PLUS INC. -----	14
METROPOLITAN COLLISION & SERVICE ---	23
MOMENTUM BMW SOUTHWEST -----	24
MOMENTUM BMW WEST -----	11
NORTH HOUSTON BEEMER -----	13
OPLINK.NET -----	19
PRO AM PARTS & ACCESSORIES -----	11
TEXAS-GERMAN AUTOHAUS, L. P. -----	11

BACK TO YOU LOOKING LIKE NEW

Metropolitan Collision & Service provides complete collision repair on all makes and models, foreign and domestic. They specialize in the repair of luxury automobiles such as Audi, BMW, Mercedes Benz, Porsche, VW, Lexus, Land Rover, Infinity as well as the more expensive SUVs. Metropolitan gets the collision repair job done right whether it is cosmetic, structural or mechanical and proudly warrants their work for the lifetime of the vehicle. Conveniently located minutes from downtown in the Heights, Metropolitan is easily accessible from any part of the greater Houston area.

With over 80 years of success in the Houston market, Metropolitan Collision is road tested and highly rated by thousands of satisfied customers.

The more you invest in a vehicle, the more important it is to deal with the best in collision repair...you can put your trust in Metropolitan Collision & Service.



METROPOLITAN
COLLISION & SERVICE

818 West 16th Street Houston, TX 77008 P 832.618.1700 F 832.618.1705

Metropolitancollision.com

TORQUE ^{OF} THE TOWN



Factory Trained Technicians
State Inspections
Window Tint
Paintless Dent Repair
Interior
Rock chip/Windshield Repair
Wheel and Rim Repair
EZ Car Care Ready
Early Bird/Late Night Drop-off

24hr Roadside Assistance
State of the Art Body Shop
Detail Service Staff on hand
Complimentary Car Wash
Coffee/Latte Machine
Comfortable Waiting Area and Cafe
Shuttle Service (15 mile Radius)
Cab Service and Towing Service
Loaner and Rental Car Service

Wi-Fi
Covered Service Drive
Valet Service
Retail Parts Boutique
Magazine/Newspaper
Online Appointments
Appointment Confirmation
Mobile Technician
Fastlane 2-Hour Service

\$17 Million New/CPO Inventory
Largest Parts Inventory in TX
72 Technicians
14 Service Advisors
Meal Vouchers
Computer Center
Service Clinics
New Car Clinics
BMW Certified Tire Center

MOMENTUM BMW
SOUTHWEST

1002 Southwest Fwy Houston, Texas 77074 1-800-731-8114